Co-operative Federation, which has been set up for the purpose. Similarly adequate representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the matter of recruitment of staff in Co-operatives will be ensured. Co-operatives will play their role in the marketing of agricultural produce and in the distribution of consumer goods and agricultural inputs in the rural areas. The Co-operative consumer movement will be reorganised and strengthened, at the State, district and village levels.

25. The Co-operative Housing Federation will expand its activities and help the beneficiaries of loans in procuring house construction materials.

26. In the field of Fisheries, My Government's priorities will be the development of the infrastructural facilities, greater exploitation of marine and inland fish wealth and the welfare of the fishermen in the traditional sector. Steps will be taken to issue title deeds to the fishermen who have been allotted house sites under the subsidised housing scheme and to arrange electrification and supply of drinking water in the coastal fisheries villages. Attention will also be given to small boat mechanization and construction of fish landing, marketing and processing centres.

27. The Marine Fishing Regulation Act will be strictly enforced and speed boats will be purchased for effective surveillance.

28. The decline in our proud maritime traditions leading to unemployment and under development in the coastal belt have been the concern of my Government. My Government would like to develop our minor ports based on the recommendations of the Working Group set up by Government of India.

29. It is also proposed to arrange a refrigerated barge for taking the frozen sea-food from the factories around Neendakara Port to the ships anchored outside the harbour. This will bring more ships to Neendakara, bringing more revenue to Government and greater employment opportunities to the local workers.

30. My Government will give due emphasis to Forestry. It is proposed to constitute a Vested Forest Fund for the betterment of forests, promotion of agriculture and welfare of the agricultural population. My Government will be implementing a major scheme of Social Forestry extending all over the State, mobilising aid from financing institutions and international aid giving agencies.

31. The protection and consolidation of the forests will be a top priority with my Government. Encroachment, smuggling and poaching will be severely dealt with and the protection and prosecution machinery will be adequately strengthened for this purpose.

32. Under Community Development, the staple schemes of Integrated Rural Development Programme started 1978-79 aiming at the economic development of the weaker sections and the National Rural Employment Programme aiming at the creation of rural employment, will be implemented vigorously. Under the later, ten million man days of employment

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